No. 16,278.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1905-TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

# RUSSIAN

Is Reported to Be Still in Kamranh Bay.

NEUTRALITY QUESTION

NOW AGITATING THE COURTS OF THE BELLIGERENTS.

Paris Not Yet Advised of Protest From Japan-Rojestvensky Outside Three-Mile Limit.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 20, 5 p.m.--It is claimed here that Admiral Rojestvensky has not overstepped the French rules of neutrality at Kamranh bay, the coaling and provisioning of his ships occurring outside territorial waters. Russia has not been advised that Japan has lodged a protest in

The charges of Russia's violation of neutrality, coupled with the revival of the story that Russia intends to send her Black sea fleet through the Dardanelles, and the report that the British Mediterranean fleet has been sent to the Aegean sea to head the business of the administrative branch in Washington will be retained here, and such as of the remainder of the clerical force as are willing will be transferred to off the Russian fleet, cause extreme irrita-

The Associated Press is again authorized to state that Russia has no intention of sending out the Black sea fleet.

The admiralty officials are quite elated over the receipt of news showing that not

lacca before the colliers arrived at the Straits of Sunda, and the Japanese then withdrew from the latter straits, having missed both the quarry and the decoys.

The admiralty is silent as to whether Rojestvensky has left Kamranh bay.

Still at Kamranh Bay.

SAIGON, French Cochin-China, April 20 .-Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet is still in Kamranh bay

The French admiral, Jonquieres, has taken every step to secure neutrality.

COMMENT AT PARIS.

#### Formal Denial of Any Protest From Japan.

PARIS, April 20 .- No confirmation has yet been obtained of the report that Japan has formally protested against the stay of the Russian squadron in the waters of Indo-China as being a breach of neutrality. The following guarded semi-official statement

"Nothing is known in the highest French diplomatic quarters concerning the protest which according to certain foreign reports has been formally addressed by Japan to the French government relative to the violation of neutrality by the Russian squadron. Furthermore, this squadron has been outside French waters for several days

In view of today's press dispatches saying the Russian squadron was still at Kamranh bay the last part of the semi-official statement appears to indicate that Admiral Rojestvensky has withdrawn outside the threemile limit from the shore line of the bay, which, according to French law, constitutes

the open sea.

Later the foreign office gave out a formal denial of the reported protest of Japan, many thousands. saving, in response to many inquiries: Neither Dr. Motono (the Japanese minister) nor the Japanese government have made any protest or complaint to the French government relative to an alleged

breach of neutrality."

It was learned in other quarters that Dr. Motono made his usual weekly call at the foreign office yesterday, which was diplomatic day. The report of a protest probably grew out of his call, but the question of France's neutrality has not been pre-sented here in any form.

Denied Sending Wireless Report.

LONDON, April 20.-Foreign Secretary Lansdowne has taken occasion formally to deny to the Russlan government the statement of the Novoe Vremya in regard to the British cruiser Iphigenia, which vessel, the newspaper said, had transmitted by wireless telegraphy the information that she had passed Admiral Rojestvensky's quadron 140 miles from Saigon. This, the Novoe Vremya declared, was very impor-tant news to the Japanese, inasmuch as Rojestvensky had succeeded in slipping by the Japanese scouts. The denial of the British foreign office contained the specific sight the Russian squadron.

# NO REPLY FROM FRANCE.

#### Tokyo Awaiting Answer to Protest Against Russian Fleet.

TOKIO, April 20 .- 5 p.m.-The reply of France to the protest of Japan against the Russian squadron using Kamranh bay has not been received in Tokyo, but is expected shortly.

The statement that the cabinet and the elder statesmen, after a conference, had forwarded a protest, is incorrect. France was approached through the usual diplo-

matic channels.

The officials here are not certain whether the Russians are still at Kamranh bay, al-though they were reported to be there yes-

To Make Tour of the Coast.

PARIS, April 20 .- A dispatch received today says M. Beau, governor general of Indo-China, recently decided on making a tour of the coast on boad a naval auxiliary vessel. He stopped at Quinhon which is 150 miles north of Kamranh bay and afterward proceeded to Hanoi, capital of Tonquin. This indicates the absence of the governor general from his usual headquarters at Salgon. The purpose of his trip was not stated, but it appears to have given him an opportunity to observe the coast which is the subject of controversy in consquadron in Indo-China waters

#### STEAMER AGENTS PROTESTED. Against Refusal to Allow German Ship

PORT LOUIS, Island of Mauritius, April 20.-The agents of the German steamer Juliette have formally protested to the Ger-

NOT ALL THE EXECUTIVE COM-MITTEE HAVE RETURNED.

Chairman Shonts of the Panama canal commission and Judge Magoon of the executive committee of that body returned to Washington from New York last night. Mr. Shonts was unable to finish up all of the many details of the work in connection with his recent election to the presidency of the Panama Railroad and Steamship Company, and after a few days in Washington will return to New York for that purpose. Chief Engineer Wallace of the commission did not return to Washington with his colleagues last night, as was expected, and will not be here for several days. Consequently the daily meetings of the executive committee, which were scheduled to take place immediately, have of necessity been postponed. Mr. Shonts had a number of conferences with his subordinates today, however, and upon the return of Chief Engineer Wallace the executive committee will settle down to work and keep at it from then on.

It has been decided that Mr. Dominic Murphy, the secretary of the isthmian canal commission just retired, shall be continued in a like capacity with the new commission at and with the same salary and allowances. It will be necessary, however, for him to take his station on the isthmus, where the executive offices of the commission will be located. A portion of the regular force of employes necessary to conduct duty on the isthmus

There were many callers at the headquarters of the commission in the Mills building annex this afternoon, including the members of the New Orleans board of trade, who have come to Washington to talk things over with Chairman Shonts. a single collier dispatched to the China sea through the Straits of Sunda for the purpose of throwing the Japanese off the scent when Admiral Rojestvensky passed through the Straits of Malacca fell into the hands of the Japanese.

Rojestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Rojestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Rojestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Rojestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Rojestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Rojestvensky reached the Straits of Malacca before the colliers arrived at the Rojestvensky reached the China sea through the construction and operation of a trans-isthmian waterway, and each step in the construction of the canal by the United States is being followed with the greatest interest by the business men of that city. Great things are expected of the new commission by the people of the creates are, of course, intensely interested in the construction and operation of a trans-isthmian waterway, and each step in the construction of the canal by the United States is being followed with the greatest interest by the business men of that city. Great things are expected of the new commission by the people of the construction and operation of a trans-isthmian waterway, and each step in the construction of the canal by the United States is being followed with the greatest interest by the business men of that city. New Orleans business and commercial incided to come to Washington and make themselves acquainted with Chairman D.

# BIGAMIST HOCH'S TRIAL.

#### Requested That His Jury Be Composed of Germans

CHICAGO, April 20.-Johann Hoch, on trial for the murder of one of his wives, Marie Walcker-Hoch, expressed the desire today for German jurors to try him. The confessed bigamist already had secured a change of venue to get before a German judge. With a German jury Hoch professes to believe that he will succeed in getting his liberty.

Hoch's counsel contends that the new voted against Hoch is invalid. The indictment was voted on the request of Assistant State's Attorney Olson, ecause the name of Mrs. Marie Walcker-Hoch was mispelled in the first indict-ment, which was returned by a grand jury some months ago. The present grand jury heard no witnesses against Hoch, it is contended, and, therefore, was unable to vote a valid true bill against him.

#### FAVORED UNION WITH GREECE. Cretan Chamber of Deputies Opened at

Canea Today. CANEA, Island of Crete, April 20.-The Cretan chamber of deputies was opened today by Prince George, the high commissioner of the powers, who, in his speech, blamed the revolutionists and declared his readiness to grant every reasonable reform

on the withdrawal of the prince, the chamber of deputies unanimously declared in favor of the union of Crete with Greece, and deputies proceeded to the palace to so inform the prince.

## ANXIETY OVER LAUNCH.

Non-Arrival of Gregory at Gibraltar From New York. GIBRALTAR, April 20 .- Considerable

anxiety is felt here at the non-arrival of the gasoline launch Gregory. The Gregory arrived at Ponta Delgada,

Azore Islands, April 4, but no announcement of her sailing for Gibraltar has been The Gregory was built by Lewis Nixon of New York. She is ninety feet long, is of steel and has two 300-horse power motors. The vessel started from New York, January 5, to make a trip to Europe, for the purpose of winning the prize of \$10,000 of-fered by a European enthusiast for the first motor boat to cross under her own power. The Gregory left New York with a crew of nine men. She was commanded by Capt. August W. Loose, and had as chief engineer Philip R. Adams, one of the best

#### HIMERA REACHES NEW YORK. Steamer in Port for Repairs-Damaged

known gas engine experts.

by Explosion. NEW YORK, April 20.-The British steamer Himera, which put in at Norfolk several days ago while bound from New Orleans with a cargo of cotton, and reported that one of her crew had been killed and several injured by an explosion of one of her boilers, arrived here today. She will

make repairs at this port before proceeding. The Himera's cargo is destined for Venice. About a month will be required to make repairs on the steamer.

The accident to the Himera occurred on April 6. Her starboard boiler was made entirely useless by the explosion, but her other one was not damaged and she continued at reduced speed. She reached Norfolk April 14, and secured medical attendance for the injured men. It was thought that repairs would be made at that port, but the steamer's agents directed that she replenish her coal supply and proceed to New York.

#### Hay Off for Genoa. NERVI, Italy, April 20.-Secretary Hay and his party, all in good spirits, left here

at 11 o'clock this morning for Genoa. Greater Pittsburg Bill Signed. HARRISBURG. Pa., April 20.-Gov.

Pennypacker today signed the Greater Pittsburg bill, which provides for the consolidation of the cities of Pittsburg and Allegheny City. The Columbia Passes Tortugas.

The Navy Department is informed that the cruiser Columbia passed Tortugas, Fla., yesterday, on her way to Vera Cruz with the remains of the Mexican ambas-

# THECANAL COMMISSION PLANS FOR

Counsel for Nan Patterson Conferred With Prisoner

IN TOMBS PRISON TODAY

PERSONNEL OF JURY MINUTELY CONSIDERED.

Accused Expressed Herself Confident of Acquittal-New Witnesses to Establish Her Innocence.

NEW YORK, April 20.-The three lawyers who are acting as counsel for Nan Patterson in her trial for the murder of "Caesar" Young had a conference with her in Tomb prison today, at which the plans of the defense and the personnel of the jury were discussed. Lawyers Abraham Levy, Henry W. Unger and Daniel O'Reilly were present. Miss Patterson expressed her pleasure at the composition of the jury, which was completed yesterday, and disappointment at the delay in postponing the taking of testimony until Monday.

#### Sure of Acquittal.

"I am sure of an acquittal this time, she told Lawyer Levy, "and every day only adds to my misery in the Tombs. Ten months and three weeks is a long time to

be shut up in prison." Lawyer Levy said today: "We have new witnesses who will establish Nan Patterson's innocence beyond a doubt. We go into this trial 100 per cent stronger in point of evidence than we did the last trial.

"We are not going to rely upon the failure of the prosecution to prove its case for an acquittal. We are going to prove the innocence of Nan Patterson.'

#### FLATTERED THE JURY.

Counsel for Nan Patterson Complimented That Body. Special Dispatch to The Star.

NEW YORK, April 20 .- Abraham Levy. senior counsel for Nan Patterson, said to-

"The jury that will try Nan Patterson represents the finest combination of brains ever summoned in a New York murder trial. I have never seen a finer, more able looking set of men," said Mr. Levy. "and I have the greatest confidence in them. Miss Patterson is greatly pleased with the jury, too. She knows, as we all do, that they will weigh the evidence minutely. There can be only one verdict and that will be an acquittal. The expeditious methods employed by the recorder in selecting the jury pleased us all greatly, Miss Patterson more than any one else. We have new wit-nesses who will establish her innocence beyond a doubt," Mr. Levy continued, "We go into this trial one hundred per cent stronger in point of evidence than we did in the last trial. We are not going to rely upon a failure of the prosecution to prove its case for an acquittal. We are going to

prove the innocence of Miss Patterson.' Daniel O'Reilly, junior counsel, said: "Nan Patterson was a delighted young yoman last night, and today finds no change in her feelings regarding the jury chosen to try her. She is so confident that this jury will believe fully in her innocence

that she is only nervous and impatient for the trial to begin."
Mr. O'Reilly continued: "Neither Mr. Levy nor myself can regard the rapid method in which the jury was completed by the action of Recorder Goff in keeping the panel until late last night as being in any way harmful to our client. We did not relax our own deliberation or carefulness in choosing the men, in spite of the pressure. I think it noticeable, however, that District Attorney Rand did grow less cautious and let things pass that he had deemed cause for challenging talesmen earlier in the session. I think we have begun well. I think it's

## THE SMITHS' CASE.

Motion to Inspect Minutes of Grand Jury Granted.

NEW YORK, April 20.-The motion made by J. Morgan Smith and his wife, the brother-in-law and sister of Nan Patterson, to inspect the minutes of the grand jury in the case against them in which they are charged with conspiracy, was granted today by Judge Foster in the court of general sessions.

At the same time Judge Foster disallowed their demurrer to the indictment and denied their attorney's motion for a summary order to compel the district attorney to turn over to them the letters taken from them after their arrest in Cin-

# ORDER FOR ORDNANCE.

Branch of Krupp Works Busy on Guns for Russia.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

A cablegram from Vienna says: The Russian government has ordered 500 new field guns and great number of heavy siege guns from a branch of the Krupp works at Traisen, in lower Austria. The order calls for delivery at the earliest date possible, and the works are now running twenty-four

hours a day to hurry the order through. Three high Russian officers are living at the works to supervise the manufacture of the guns and several Japanese who are "studying" in a village near by are being closely watched by the Russian secret seryice agents.

## MR. MORRISON PROTESTS.

Alleged Interference With Rights of Labor in Porto Rico.

Mr. Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, called on the Secretary of War this afternoon in reference to certain appeals that have been made to President Samuel Gompers of that organization by the labor interests of Porto Rico. The appeals are for support in their effort to obtain an increase of wages which has resulted in conflicts with the police authorities of the island. The appeal came from Santiago Iglesias, the local organizer of the Federation of Labor in Porto Rico, who cabled to President Gomp-

ers from Ponce as follows:

"Pacific meetings, thousands of workers being destroyed by the police. Sixty workers wounded by shooting and beating; fourteen thousand strikers asked increased wages. Your soldidarity should cause great beneft."

Senator Hemenway Cuts Short His Va-

Senator Hemenway of Indiana, who came to town the other day expecting to stay diana on a peace mission. The republicans of the first congressional district are having a cat and dog time over the selection of a candidate for the House of Representatives to succeed Mr. Hemenway, who has gone to the Senate. There are two candidates for the nomination, John W. Brady and George A. Cunningham. At the district convention this week the

rival factions had a free fight, threw chairs and benches at each other and behaved most scandalously, finally breaking up in a split and calling two separate conventions in different places for next Saturday. Both factions declared they were out for blood and the prospect seems stormy.

The first district was formerly a democratic district and Mr. Hemenway has been given the credit by republicans for carrying it for his party. He regards the present situation as menacing republican interests and creating a possibility of the democrats sending a man to Congress. So he has abandoned a contemplated three weeks' vacation and is now scurrying back to Indiana with his gripsack full of olive branches for the warring factions and a supply of oil to pour upon the troubled political waters. He did not intimate before leaving what plan he will put into effect to bring about peace, but is going to have peace if he has to fight for it. There are only two democrats from Indiana in the next House of Representatives and Mr. Hemenway cannot with equanimity contemplate the possibility of increasing the democratic representation in the delegation.

#### RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

Nine Members of Board of Review Now

Out. The Secretary of the Interior has approved the action of the commissioner of pensions in accepting the resignations of nine members of the board of review of the pension office as a result of the investigation of the charges of misconduct against these men. The resignation of the tenth member of the board, which was submitted to the commissioner, has not been acted upon for the reason that all the facts in his case have not yet been sifted. It is claimed that this member of the board did not act on an original claim, but simply on an application for increase, and that his action was in accordance with the practice of the office. Commissioner Warner is very free in expressing his opinion of the practice, but does not believe the member of the board of review should suffer for an error in of review should suffer for an error in the practice of the office.

# TO PROMOTE GEN. RANDALL.

Important Changes in Duties of General Officers.

Gen. Taft has authorized the statement that Brig. Gen. George M. Randall, commanding the Department of Luzon, will be promoted to the grade of major general and assigned to duty in this city as assistant chief of staff on the voluntary retirement of Maj. Gen. G. S. Gillespie in June next, and that Col. Arthur L. Wagner of the general staff will be promoted to the grade of brigadier general, vice Randall, and assigned to the presidency of the Army War College in this city, vice Brig. Gen. T. H. Bliss, ordered to duty in the Phil-

## THE WHITE HOUSE.

Secretary Shaw's Circular Giving Its

Official Designation. According to an order issued by Secretary Shaw, President Roosevelt still insists on his official home being designated as "The White House" and not as "The Executive Mansion." Secretary Shaw has issued an order to officers and employes of the treasury directing that hereafter all official matter prepared or written in the executive departments of the treasury, where reference has to be made to the presidential headquarters, shall contain "The White House" and not "The Executive Mansion." It is stated that the President recently had Secretary Loeb call the attention of executive heads to the desire of uniformity in official documents and directing the discontinuance of "Executive Mansion" in any way. Soon after President Roosevelt came into office he discontinued the use of the term "The Executive Mansion" and substituted "The White House," all official paper being printed that way and all state documents, messages to Congress, etc., going out of and being signed in "The White House." Until the orders for the change "The Executive Mansion" had been the official title of all Presidents since Washington. The letter heads, envelopes and other paper during the McKinley and prior administrations bore the inscription "Executive Mansion" and presidential documents

were issued from there.
Older clerks of the government, accus tomed for so many years to writing "Ex-ecutive Mansion," have failed to fall into the new style and continue to forget the de-sires of the President. The orders of Secretary Shaw are the first of an official na ture that have been printed on the subject, the President not having issued orders when he first made the change, assuming that the executive departments would easily and quickly fall into the style.

## TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS.

Carriage of Sailors and Marines Across the Continent.

After several weeks careful consideration of the bids received for the transportation of sailors and marines between eastern ports and San Francisco, the Secretary of the Navy has awarded contracts, as fol-

Between New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Norfolk and Chicago to the Chesapeake and Ohio road; between Chicago and Omaha to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul road, and between Omaha and San Francisco to the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific roads. These contracts provide that the transcontinental trip between Norfolk and San Francisco shall be made in 5 days, 3 hours and 35 minutes, at a toin 5 days, 3 hours and 35 minutes, at a to-tal per capita cost of \$42, of which \$24.20 is railroad fare and \$17.71 is for sleeper, meals, etc. The cost from and to New York is \$4.50 higher per man and from and to Philadelphia it is \$4 higher for from one to nine men, and \$2.72 higher for ten or in the case of ten or more men.

## REGARDED AS THREATENING.

Suspicious Movements of Guatemalan

Refugees in Mexico. Senor Munos, the Guatemalan minister here, called at the State Department today to discuss with Acting Secretary Loomis certain suspicious movements of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico and also man consul against the local government's refusal to allow the vessel to coal and against the consequent delay here.

The action of the local officials was due to the common to statements made by British members of the creative to the effect that the Juliette is carrying stores to the Russian squadron in the China sea.

With the remains of the Mexican ambass sador.

Mr. Morrison, on behalf of the federation sador.

Secretary to Legation at Panama.

Secretary to Legation at Panama.

These move-to statement sador is supposed abuses. He also entered a vigorous protest against the united statement in the attitude of Salvador, which are regarded as threatening a revolutionary attent of insurance from taking further proceedings regarding the proposed abuses. He also entered a vigorous protest to make a resultion should be given to the fire department is of insurance from taking further proceedings regarding the proposed abuses. He also entered a vigorous protest to make a vigorous protest the came here devict the commissioner. Mr. W. S. Sands, former secretary of the fatther the came here with the commissioner. Mr. W. S. Sands newspaper man until the abuses. He also entered a vigorous protest to make a vigorous protest to make a vigorous protest the came here deviction his bat once a substance of five fatther the proceedings regarding the proposed abuses. He also entered a vigorous protest to make a vigorous protest to make a vigorous protest to make for insurance from insurance from insurance from taking for the federation, but the description of insuranc the attitude of Salvador, which are re-

some time, has hurriedly returned to In- Board of Charities Statement to Commissioners.

GIRLS' REFORM SCHOOL

MATTERS IN A MUCH DISORDERrival factions had a free fight, threw ED CONDITION.

> Methods of Management Severely Criticised-Altogether an Unusual Paper-Its Contents.

After nearly seven months of investigation, the board of charities today made a somewhat sensational report to the District Commissioners concerning the conduct and management of the girls' reform school. It is even intimated that employes of the institution have been discharged for no other reason than testifying before the investigating committee to the detriment of the officials in charge. The report also declares that the recommendations of the fire department have not been complied with; that the engineer knows nothing concerning the availability of the fire hose, and that the hose connection on the outside of the building is broken and has been useless for a long time. The engineer testified that he had appealed to the trustees, and it appears further along in the report that the trustees "considered" the matter, but took no action. The methods of school management are criticised, and in many other respects the report is unusual, judging from others which have emanated from the board

of charities. Commissioner Macfarland was the first of the triumvirate to read the report, and when he had acquainted himself with its contents his features assumed a decidedly serious expression. He will recommend that a copy of the report be sent immediately to the trustees of the reform school, and while believing the trustees will make a satisfactory answer, he said that if such answer is not satisfactory a copy of the report will be sent to the President and to Congress, who have jurisdiction over the institution. The Commissioners are powerless to act. The members of the board of trustees are appointed by the President and confirmed by Congress. The only jurisdiction given the Commissioners is the ap-

#### proval of appointments. Discharge of Employes.

A part of the report which will attract attention, is the last page, as follows "During the progress of the inquiry several employes of the school, who testified to the existence of unfavorable conditions, were requested to resign. On this account the committee was somewhat embarrassed. Whatever the reasons were that governed the trustees in the discharge of these teachers, in the testimony of the president of the board of trustees and of the former superintendent, they stated that two who were asked to resign had been connected with the school for four and nine years, respectively, and that they were considered most efficient and acceptable to the authorities in charge, and that they were fitted for and devoted to the work: That these teachers should have been requested to resign under these circumstances emed to be most inopportune, and it likely influenced other witnesses from their testimony as freely as they otherwise would have done. It is of vital importance that witnesses, at such an inquiry, should feel assured that their positions

in any wise endangered by the testimony When a representative of The Star asked Commissioner Macfarland what he thought of the preceding paragraph, the Commissioner replied that he had held up his approval of the appointments made by the board of trustees until the trustees should give good and sufficient reasons for the discharge of the employes which caused the vacancies. Mr. Macfarland stated that the trustees had never explained this matter to him to his satisfaction, and that in consequence he has not yet approved the ap-pointments of successors to the discharged mployes, and that he will not do so. So if the new appointees are working, they are working without pay and without au-thority, according to the president of the board of District Commissioners. If no appointees are working, then the force is much too small to cope with the conditions which exist, is another deduction made from the report of the board of charities.

#### Fire Protection. With regard to fire protection, the report

"The conditions at the institution, with

respect to fire protection, are not what they should be, and in some respects are not in accordance with the advice and suggestion of the fire department, made by letter, sent to the reform school October 29, 1904. The equipment is not always in working order, and at the time of the inquiry was not in proper condition. The engineer did not know as to the availability of the hose. There is but one outside connection for hose, and that had been broken and useless for a long time. The engineer said that he had reported the same to the proper authorities, but nothing had been done to replace or repair the defect. It is shown by the testimony that in order that the inmates may escape in case of fire at night it is necessary for a teacher to be awakened, who must first unlock her own door, then an iron grating separating the teachers' departments from the girls' corridor, then unlock a door irading to the window where the fire escape is located, and there unlock an iron grating, and then unlock the doors to the girls' and then unleck the doors to the girls' rooms, one after another. In the case of fire in the basement or first floor, with dense smoke—and conditions are favorable for such in the new building—the only way of escape for teachers or immates would be by the fire escape, for all doors at the bottom of the stairways at the ends of the corridors are kept locked. Your committee is of the onlyion that more careful atten-

# CONFESS IGNORANCE

NAVAL OFFICERS DON'T KNOW WHERE THE FLEETS ARE.

Expert Speculation as to the Movements of the Japanese and the Russians.

Naval officers here are awaiting with keen interest some definite information regarding the whereabouts of the Russian and Japanese fleets and the expected naval battle, the result of which may decide the

war in the far east. "The prospective meeting of the hostile fleets," said one officer, "means a great deal more to Japan than it does to Russia. Japan has little to gain by the fight and everything to lose, while Russia has everything to gain and comparatively little to lose. It is impossible for any one at this distance to predict when or where the battle between the Russian and Japanese

#### fleets will occur.

No Information at Hand. "We have absolutely no information as to the exact whereabouts of the fleets. The report from Berlin that the Russian fleet is coaling at Cuyos Islands is merely a guess. We have no such information. I know that It would be a good place to coal, as there is quite smooth water beyond the three-mile limit, for the bottom of the sea there is hard and smooth and it would afford a good coaling point; but I believe the Russians, in view of a meeting with the Japanese at any time, have kept their bunkers full of coal. They have coaled at

Time Required for Coaling. "I know how long it would take to coal an American or English fleet, but I have no idea how long it would take the Rus- regarded the action of the general agents sians to do the work, nor the number of colliers or number of ships to be coaled. As to what the Russians are liable to do, I don't know. If they are at the Cuyos Islands, which is a small group in the Suiu sea, about the middle of the Philippine archipelago, they might steam through the islands, for there is a deep channel there, and up the east coast of Luzon toward Formosa. Then, again, they might go south and sail around Mindanao and go up the east coast, or again they may go up the west coast and pass north of Luzon toward Formosa. Take your choice.

Probable Japanese Movements "I do not know where the Japanese fleet is, nor does any one in the department here, but I believe that, as they have a base at Formosa, the fleet is near it. Scouts are most likely spread all the way from Formosa down toward the Philippines, so as to detect the approaching Russian fleet. no matter which way it comes. I might venture the prediction that, if Rojestvensky moves toward Formosa, you may expect a battle at any time, for the Japanese are waiting for them. It will be the Japs' Mr. Bowes, as chairman of the committee policy to attack the Russians in detail and not as a solid fleet. In other words, the Japs will attempt to fight one Russian ship

# WILL VISIT TOKYO.

pick off another."

Secretary Taft to Go to the Japanese Capital.

Upon further consideration of the matter, as laid before him by Secretary Hioki of the Japanese legation. Secretary Taft has concluded to visit Tokyo, while his ship, the Manchuria, on which he will make his Philippine trip, is coaling at Yokohama. The Secretary has made such a visit on the occasion of other like detentions at Yokohama, and could scarcely fail to make an official call on this occasion. It has not yet been decided whether or not the antire party of sixty accompanying the Secretary shall join him in the visit to Tokyo.

## DEATH OF JOSEPH LEANTO.

Acting Secretary Loomis Receives Report of a Special Inquiry. Acting Secretary Loomis has received

from the Department of Justice a report upon an investigation conducted by one of its special agents at the instance of the State Department into the death of Joseph Leanto, an Italian citizen, who was shot at the little station of Lorton, a few miles below Alexandria, about two weeks ago. The agent reports that Leanto ,"died from gunshot wounds while offering resistance

When the report of the governor of Virginia is received on the same affair, the two will be communicated to the Italian embassy here. The ambassador, who is deeply concerned in stimulating Italian immigration to the south and consequently in making sure that such immigrants would be accorded the full protection of the laws, caused the Italian vice consul here to investigate this case, with the result that the theory of suicide was negatived.

to lawful arrest."

## PLANTED ANOTHER OAK. Secretary Hitchcock Replaced the One

That Died.

Another small oak sapling, grown from

an acorn taken from under a George Washington oak at St. Petersburg, has been planted in the White House grounds by Secretary Hitchcock of the Interior Department. Many years ago some Russians who came to this country and went to Mount Vernon picked up some acorns from the immense oak close to the Washington home. The oak had been planted by Washington himself. The acorns were taken to St. Petersburg and planted and several of them grew into splendid trees on the beautiful avenues. When Secretary Hitchcock was ambassador of the United States to St. Petersburg he picked up some acorns from under this son of the Washington oak. He brought them to this country and planted them in his Missouri home. They

planted it in the White House grounds near the upper gate at the east entrance. It died during the winter and was removed several weeks ago. Mr. Hitchcock and his daughter, accompanied by Col. Bromwell, planted another oak of the same kind at the same place a few days ago, and it is hoped this one will live, giving it an inter-esting history.

Proposed Treasury Promotions. Commissioner Yerkes has not made an announcement of his selection as chief of the claims division of the internal revenue bureau, to succeed the late Dr. J. Lee Adams, whose funeral services were held yesterday, but it is said to be likely that he will recommend to Secretary Shaw the transfer of E. C. Johnston, chief of the stamps division, to the vacancy. Mr. Johnston will receive the salary he is now paid. For chief of the stamps division the

intention is to recommend Henry Giovan-noli, at present private secretary of the commissioner. Mr. Giovannoli is from

# TO ADVERTISERS: >

The Sunday Star is delivered by carriers to twice as many regular subscribers in the homes of Washington as those subscribing to any other Sunday paper.

# THE EQUITABLE CASE

Principal Topic of Discussion in New York Today.

HYDE WILL NOT RESIGN

SITUATION IS RAPIDLY ASSUM-ING THE ACUTE STAGE.

Action of General Agents and Receivership Proceedings Haking Affairs Critical-Hyde's Statement.

NEW YORK, April 20,-Developments in the Equitable Life controversy, including the engagement of Joseph H. Choate as counsel by James H. Hyde, the demand of the organization of general agents for Mr. Hyde's resignation and the institution of proceedings in Louisiana asking for a receivership for the society under the Louisiana law, engaged public attention today almost to the exclusion of other topics.

Mr. Hyde made an appointment yesterday to meet today the committee of general agents appointed to demand his resignation. This committee was made up of Joseph Bowes of Baltimore, W. J. Roddy of South Carolina, Frank C. Levy of New Orleans, Charles Jerome Edwards of Brooklyn and Charles Wake of New York. While Mr. Hyde agreed to receive this

committee, he declared that he had no intention whatever of resigning, and that he in making such a request as "impertinent, extraordinary, insulting, and most preposterous. The demand by the agents for an investigation and the action inaugurated in

Louisiana were regarded as making critical

a condition which already was extremely When the committee called at Mr. Hyde's nome, at 9 East 40th street, they were met by Mr. Hyde and W. H. McIntyre, Charles B. Alexander, W. C. Gulliver and Alvin Krech, his advisers. The committee remained in the house twelve minutes and returned to the Hotel Savoy without giving any intimation of what occurred. A repre-sentative of Mr. Hyde announced, however, that a stenographic report of everything said at the meeting had been made, and

that an official statement would be issued by Mr. Hyde later in the day. Hyde's Official Statement.

The official statement given out by Mr. Hyde of his meeting with the committee said: "I am charged, sir, with a somewhat disagreeable task, the bearing to you of a request from a convention of managers and

agents now assembled in the Hotel Savoy

that you voluntarily resign your position as vice president of the Equitable. Following. is the request of the convention: "'James H. Hyde, vice president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of America: We, the general agents and managers of the Equitable, assembled in convention from all parts of the United States and Canada, are personally, and through our agents, in close touch with the people, and, knowing the deep-seated convictions of the policyholders, and deeply deploring the ne-cessity for our action, therefore sincerely and earnestly appeal to you, on behalf of the Equitable, to the creation and upbuilding of which your father devoted his life, and for the sake of its policyholders and its agents, to set aside all personal inter-ests and now voluntarily retire from the

vice presidency. (Signed) Henry J. Poweli, Chairman; F. A. McNamee, Frank L. Levy and J. W. Estes, Secretaries.' "
Mr. Hyde's reply to the committee was as follows:
"In the first place, I have no intention of

resigning the office of the vice presidency of the Equitable. Such a course I would consider cowardly and disgraceful to the memory of my father. "Second. It is evident from your extraor-dinary request and from the report of the proceedings at your meeting that you have not the remotest conception of this tunate controversy or the motives behind the selfish struggle for the control of the society. I think, however, that you are entitled to know something of the real facts

therefore, write you tomorrow in reply to the request made in this remarkable com-"I think, however, that your request might have been far more justified had it been made to those having no interest in the society who precipitated this unfortunate controversy and are keeping the agitation alive to serve their own selfish

on which my attitude is based, and I will,

## purposes. You will hear further from me

The Question at Issue. "Of course, you gentlemen must know that the questions at issue are now in the hands of the department of insurance and Mr. Frick's committee, who, I think you will agree with me, are the ones to judge. It is but fair to them to say nothing

further. "I appreciate how greatly you have been afflicted through this misfortune, but I tell you again that the best way to bring about a satisfactory conclusion for your men is to remain loyal to the Equitable, and not to do anything before the report of the investigating committees. On reflection I think that you will be able to see impar-tially and to judge these matters which now are the subject of controversy in our

committee alone, his lawyers and advisers having left the house just as the commit-

Mr. Hyde and his secretary received the

Not Offered an Office. E. A. Woods, general agent of the Equitable in Pittsburg, said today it was not true. as reported, that he had been offered a grew into saplings. A year ago he brought one of these saplings to Washington and vice presidency in the society in return for support to Mr. Alexander and Mr. Tarbell.

> Mr. Woods also said: "It has been claimed that Mr. Alexander. in his efforts to bring about mutualization. was influenced by the fact that he would control the proxies of the policy holders. The public evidently does not know the proposition Mr. Alexander made to the socalled committee of eleven. Mr. Alexander told them he would agree to have the proxies of the policy holders sent to and deposited with President Roosevelt, Grover Cleveland or the presidents of any six Amer ican universities. In the presence of Mr. Alexander, Mr. Tarbell announced this from the platform at one of the meetings."

## Argument Adjourned.

Justice McLean, in the supreme court, today adjourned until April 24 the argument in the suit brought by Henry G. Tull, a policy holder of Philadelphia, for an injunction to restrain the Equitable Life Assurance Society, its directors and the state

# to Coal.